(d), if answers to the parts(a) to (c) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to allot additional funds for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) According to the agreement with the artists the work was to be completed by June 1984 at a cost of Rs. 4,80,000 but it has not been completed so far.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Vice-Chancellor requested for additional allocation of funds for a second cast of the Sculpture.

(d) Government has already decided to pay an additional sum of Rs. 50,000 to the artists subject to the work being completed by November 1985 satisfactorily.

Poor response of the small and marginal farmers towards Bio-gas Plants

996. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is poor response among the small and marginal farmers towards adoption of bio-gas plants;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only five per cent of the farmers own the requisite infra-structure and resources to make a bio-gas plant technologically viable; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to tap this potential and make it available to the poor farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir. During 1984-85 1,80,430 bio-gas plants were set up in the country as against 92,590 in 1983-84. The increase covers all categories including small and marginal farmers.

(b) No, Sir. At least 15 million families are estimated to have the cattle required for a bio-gas plant based on designs presently in vogue. The potential is likely to enlarge with the development of new designs which need lesser number of cattle and can use other wastes.

(c) The Central Government have sanctioned continuation of the Sixth Plan Schemes namely, National Project for Bio-gas Development which caters to family based bio-gas plants and another programme for setting up community and institutional bio-gas plants during 1985-86. A revised target of 1.50 lakh family based bio-gas plants has been fixed for the current year. Higher rates of subsidy are given to small and marginal farmers, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and landless labourers. Three new and cheaper designs of bio-gas plants have been developed recently and are being promoted. Design specifications for the plants of 1 cubic metre gas production capacity have been finalised for which even two cattle are sufficient. Moreover, arrangements have been made for creation of a cadre of trained manpower in the field for providing technical guidance and supervision in the construction and post-installation maintenance of bio-gas plants, setting up plants on turn-key basis with minimum two years' guarantee for their trouble free functioning, allocation of levy cement and mild steel sheets, etc. Financial assistance for rectification of bio-gas plants is also being given. While assessing the technical and economical viability of the proposal regarding community and institutional bio-gas plants, due consideration is given for providing benefits of these plants to small and marginal farmers also. Research work is in progress to develop designs

which need lesser number of cattle and can use different waste materials as foodstocks.

Rocket launcher in the house of a retired Army Officer

997. SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a rocket launcher has been found in the house of a retired army officer at Chandigarh: and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD KHAN): (a) and (b) The Chandigarh Administration have reported that an outer covering of a smoke shell fired from 3" Mortar (empty shell) was found on 7-7-1985 lying in House No. 1109, Sector 21, Chandigarh, earlier occupied by an Ex-Army officer.

Prime Minister's visit to tribal villages of Madhya Pradesh

998. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:
DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited three tribal villages in Madhya Pradesh on July 12, 1985;

(b) if so, what specific tribal problems were brought to notice of the Prime Minister during the visit; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to resolve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) The Prime Minister visited several tribal villages in Madhya Pradesh during his tour from 12th to 15th July, 1985 including some villages of Jhabua district on 12th July.

(b) Problems of tribals brought to notice of PM included inadequate infrastructure. requirements of irrigation and drinking water. forestry problems including problems of forest settlement. problems of personnel including vacancies in posts in tribal areas and problems connected with the implementation of poverty alleviation programmes and welfare schemes in these areas.

(c) Education of Adivasi girls is being given the first priority. The sectors like communication, industry, forest and water conservation in tribal areas are also being considered as priority sectors to resolve the economic problems of the backward tribal villages. Efforts are being made to ensure that suitable administrative and technical officials are posted in tribal areas. The questions of relating assets supplied under I. R. D. P. to local conditions, and improving the implementation of the programmes are also being looked into afresh. The Sixth Plan size of the State was Rs. 3,800.00 crores and it has been raised to Rs. 7,000.00 crores during the Seventh Plan. The Special Central Assistance of the State has been increased by about Rs. 3 crores *i.e.* to Rs. 39.24 crores during the current year. An amount of Rs. 6.47 crores has been sanctioned under Article 275(1) 1st proviso of the Constitution towards resettlement of forest dwellers and shifting cultivators. For upgradation of tribal administration in the State, an amount of Rs. 8.55 crores is proposed to be released to the State during the current year under the Eighth Finance Commission Award. This amount includes incentive allowance for staff. A total number of 9.21 lakh tribal families has been targetted to be assisted economically during the Seventh Plan as against 6.18 lakhs during the Sixth Plan.